

SECRET
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
BIOGRAPHIC REPORT
SECURITY INFORMATION

NAME **KOVACS, Istvan**

CASE No. **0000351**
DATE **19 Aug. 1952**

NATIONALITY	Hungarian	BIRTHDATE	1909
PRESENT POSITION	Vice President, Presidium, 1952	BIRTHPLACE	
LOCATION	Budapest, Hungary	RACE	
		SEX	Male
GEN. OCCUPATION	Political leader	MARITAL STATUS	
		NAME OF SPOUSE	
EDUCATION		CHILDREN	
		RELIGION	
LANGUAGES		POLITICAL AFFILIATION	Hungarian Workers' Party (HWP)
		ATTITUDE TOWARDS:	U.S.
HONORS	Order of Merit of People's Republic, Class I.		U.S.S.R.

CAREER:

1945-date	Member, Parliament.1/2/
1947	Chief, Organization Section, Hungarian Communist Party.3/
1948	Alternate member, Political Committee.4/
1948-date	Secretary, Central Committee, HWP.2/3/
1949	Elected correspondent member, Hungarian Academy of Sciences; Member, Budget Estimate Committee and Parliamentary Rules Committee.4/
	Member, Council of Independent People's Front.
1949-1950	Secretary General, HWP Committee for Greater Budapest.5/
1949-date	Member, Presidium.2/2/
1950	Member, Executive Committee, Independent People's Front.6/
	Member, Executive Committee, Budapest Council.7/
1950-date	Member, Legal Committee of Parliament.2/5/
1951	Hungarian representative, 7th Congress of Italian Communist Party.8/
1951-date	Vice President, Presidium.9/
	Member, Politburo, HWP.10/
	Member, Orgburo, HWP.11/
1952	Hungarian delegate, Second Party Meeting, German Socialist Unity Party, Berlin, July.12/

REMARKS:

Istvan KOVACS, Vice President of the Presidium and member of the Secretariat, Politburo and Orgburo of the Hungarian Workers Party, is reported to keep generally in the background and is the only top leader without an important ministerial job.13/ He is considered an important and dangerous Communist.

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KOVACS, Istvan

Remarks: (continued)

Kovacs comes from a workers family and worked as an upholsterer in his youth.5/ He reportedly joined the labor movement in 1923 working in an illegal youth association for awhile and then in the Communist Party.4/ During the Rasty Regime his party activities resulted in ten years imprisonment.

Kovacs should not be confused with another Istvan Kovacs who is Secretary General of the Hungarian Jurists Association and who often attends conferences organized by the World Federation of Democratic Lawyers.5/ ★

SOURCES:

- 1/ Waplog, 6 April 1945, Unclassified.
- 2/ State, D-485, Budapest, 29 May 1952, Restricted.
- 3/ War, R-163-47, Hungary, 4 December 1947 (D-3), Secret.
- 4/ State, MI Files Report, December 1949, Restricted.
- 5/ State, MI Files Report, 16 November 1950, Restricted.
- 6/ State, D-833, Budapest, 26 February 1950, Restricted.
- 7/ State, D-121, Budapest, 21 August 1950, Restricted.
- 8/ CIA, FEIS, 4 April 1951, Restricted.
- 9/ CIA, FEIS, 16 May 1951, Restricted.
- 10/ State, D-625, Budapest, 5 March 1951, Unclassified.
- 11/ State, D-626, Budapest, 5 March 1951, Unclassified.
- 12/ State, D-34, Budapest, 15 July 1952, Restricted.
- 13/ Army, L-8903, Budapest, 19 June 1952, Secret.

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